

S E R M O N

PREACH'D Before the
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE,

I N

KINGS COLLEGE CHAPEL,

On the 25th of MARCH 1724.

Being the ANNIVERSARY
For COMMEMORATING

KING HENRY VI, the FOUNDER.

A N D

On the Occasion of laying the FIRST STONE
For the FOUNDATION of a

NEW COLLEGE.

By GREGORY DOUGHTY, M. A.

And one of the SENIOR FELLOWS of
KINGS COLLEGE.

Publish'd at the Request of the VICE-CHANCELLOR,
and HEADS of COLLEGES.

To which is added some Account of this New Design, with
a PLAN of the Intended Building, and the INSCRIPTION
upon the FIRST STONE.

C A M B R I D G E.

Printed at the UNIVERSITY-PRESS, for Will. Thurlbourn
Bookseller, and Sold By R. Knaplock in St. Paul's Church-
Yard LONDON. 1724.

SEMPER OMNIBUS

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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KING R. E. K. V. A. 1904

NEW COLLEGE

1910

1914

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1944



LUKE II. 14.

Good Will towards Men.

THESE Words are Part of that Glorious and Divine *Hymn* uttered by a *multitude of the Heavenly Host* in Honour of Man's approaching Redemption; and it may be pertinent to observe, that altho' the Son of God in great Mercy to us passed by the Angels, a far more Illustrious Order of Beings, and *took on* *Heb. 2.* *Him the seed of Abraham*; their Heavenly ^{16.} minds notwithstanding were void of every Repentment, save only such as Love and the most disinterested Benevolence could inspire: They were so far from expostulating with their Maker

B

upon

upon this mighty Preference vouchsafed to Man above Themselves, as even to break out into the most fervent strains of Joy and Thanksgiving upon that Noble Occasion, *Praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth peace, Good will towards Men* So pleased, so transported were those Blessed Spirits at the unspeakable Happiness intended by God to their Fellow Creatures. 'Tis indeed the wretched Property of Man, and of Him only, to cherish and indulge a sad variety of Passions, which lay waste His Soul, and extinguish every great and Heroic Sentiment.

Hence is it that we Observe, with a degree of Concern, some Persons, who can receive impressions of Pain and Inquietude from any incidents of Good Fortune, which may befall others; Hence likewise those very Objects, which should raise in us Emulation and Esteem, become too often the occasions of Envy and Discontent. It would be impious however and Unbecoming to charge this odious disposition upon the hard Necessity of our Nature, which proceeds only from the most vile and lowest Corruption of it. The Almighty has formed our Souls lofty and pure, as are those Regions of Glory hereafter to receive them

them. If then the Image of our Maker be sullied and defaced in us, Man alone must answer for the Guilt and Shame of it. Some indeed there are, and in every Age have been, to whom all the success, that arrives to others, yields a pleasing Satisfaction; so transcendently Great and Good, that They seem to Rise above themselves, and to Approach nearer the Nature of those superior Beings, the bright Attendants upon the Throne of God.

I should now be much wanting to *This Day's* Solemnity, and unmindful of the Great and Exemplary Virtues of our Pious *Founder*, should I here pass by in silence the dear and ever memorable Name of *King HENRY the sixth*, a Name hardly to be Mention'd without the warmest Emotions; so Good, so Munificent a Prince, that He may well appear, as far as frail Nature is capable, to have Resembled God in the Loveliest of His Perfections. But I must now enter more immediately upon the Subject of my Text; and shall in the

First Place treat of that Noble Principle of the Mind BENEVOLENCE, or, as in my Text, *Good Will towards Men*.

And 2^{dly} shew the Influence of it upon the

Minds of those, who have been the several
FOUNDERS and PATRONS of these *Learned*
Societies.

And shall apply my self lastly to the Occasion
of our present Meeting.

Ist. Then of *Benevolence*, and in Order here-
to, I will consider the Nature, Dignity, and
Blessedness of it.

Benevolence is the chief and most becoming
Excellency of the Soul; and is followed by all
that shining Train of Graces and Virtues, which
are at once the Ornament, and Support of Civil
Life: It inspires a quick and lively Sense of those
tender Distresses, which Humanity at any Time
recommends to our Observation and Pity; is
wakeful to all the soft and pleasing Calls of
Mercy, Gentleness, and Love; busied and un-
wearied in the manifold Offices of Kindness, and
Condescension; ministring to the Wants, and
Necessities of the Meanest; and if Occasion re-
quires, Opens and Enlarges it self to the Noblest
Instances of Bounty, and Munificence. It is a
Principle various and unconfined, reaching out
to all the Demands, I had almost said, even
Wishes.

Wishes of Men; and ever discovers a readiness of Inclination to serve, when Power or Opportunity is wanting to effect it. But the most Glorious Property of it is still behind, that I mean, by which it engages us to recommend the Persons and Undertakings of Others to the Favour and Protection of Almighty God, in sincere and fervent Prayer, as well for their Eternal as Present Happiness: and *Blessed is the Man that doth This, Happy shall He be, and it shall be Well with Him.*

But to proceed next and consider the *Dignity* of it. If we look to the source of this Divine Quality, we find it Springs from true Greatness and Generosity of Mind; is an Enemy to every Thing, that is Mean and Narrow, Sordid and Selfish; it represents God in His most Delightful Attributes; and comes up to the Tenor of the Gospel, and Spirit of its Divine Author; who, for His abundant Favour and Kindness to the whole Race of Mankind, is deservedly Stiled Love it self. To which we may add, that even Those, who have the least Pretence to any Share of it Themselves, observe it in Others with a Secret Veneration; the very Presence of a Kind-natured and Generous Person has Charms for every Heart; and we cannot but behold Him in the
View

view of a Guardian Angel, rather than Mortal Man.

3dly, As for the *Blessedness* of it, This is Evident to such who attentively Consider, in how Great a Degree the Comfort and Happiness of Mankind depends upon their Mutual Love and Good Will one towards another; which is not only Necessary in the more Important Parts of Life; but even ordinary Converse is scarce tolerable without it. Were all Tenderesses and Charitable Concerns once Banished, Disorder and Confusion would immediately Enter, and Cover the Face of the whole Earth. One would Imagine therefore each particular Man might be led by Interest to observe a Sociable and Kind Deportment, were a Sense of Duty too Weak to Enforce it: For obliged we are undoubtedly to the Performance of such Acts, as flow from this exalted Habit, by the strictest Ties of Nature, and the common Sentiments of Humanity: And our Holy Religion, which has Heightned and Improved this Relation, is abundantly able to supply us with the most Powerful and Endearing Motives to observe it; we have *One Lord, one*

Eph. 4. Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all: A farther Encouragement is the inexpressible
and

and never-failing Pleasure which attends the Exercise of it. To raise Indigent and Obscure Merit; to forward and promote in Life Persons born or bred up to handsomer Expectations; to Administer with the nicest Secrecy Relief to those, who are too Modest to own their Want of it; to rescue a Bright and Unfollied Character from blackning Infamy and Scandal, are some of the Highest Acts, we are Capable of; and the ravishing Satisfaction which flows into the Heart of Man from a Consciousness only of having done Thus, is a Natural and Noble Recompence of it; a Pledge of that future and endless One reserved for Him in the Heavens. There is indeed a false and counterfeit Joy, which accompanies the several Gratifications of Envy, Malice, Revenge, and all that foul Tribe of Passions, which deform the Soul; Wretches, at that instant, may feel their *Hearts burn*; but not with Holy and Religious Warmth; rather with such only as is an Earnest of that Fire, which shall hereafter be unquenchable. Oh! would the most Ungenerous of the Sons of Men, the most distant from Ingenuity and Goodness, but once admit this Heavenly Stranger to their Breasts, They would immediately find an uncommon Joy springing up in their Souls; a certain Gladness of Spirit would

would diffuse it self thro' all their Senses; such as they never knew before, nor can ever be felt, but upon the like Occasion. Which brings me to my

2d General Head; to shew the Influence of this Principle upon the Minds of those, who have been the several *FOUNDERS* and *PATRONS* of these *Learned Societies*.

Among the Various Ways of expressing Good Will, and Kind Affection to Men, tho' all are Commendable and Worthy; yet such appear most Bright and Conspicuous, as lead directly to the Care of the Mind, and Improvement of our Nature. And indeed the Generality of Mankind, not excepting the Heathen Ages of the World, have been so just and distinguishing, as to hold those in the Highest Degree of Esteem, who have shewn a true Concern and Zeal in the Interests of Learning, and the Cause of Virtue. Such were the Generous and Noble Aims of those Great and Excellent Persons, who have Honoured this Place with the Comeliest Monuments of their Piety and Munificence; Consecrated all to the Services of Religion, the Increase of Knowledge, and the Propagation of
Both

Both. It was never Part of their Designs to tempt Men to Hide themselves in Cells and Solitude; to oblige them to renounce and abandon the World, but to appear, and be useful in it. And accordingly the Revenues appointed for our Subsistence are Decent only, and Moderate; by no means intended as the Reward and Recompence of Learning, but as the immediate Encouragement and necessary support of it.

When the utter Extinction of that Multitude of Religious Houses, which once Swarmed throughout this Nation, was first agreed upon; the representing 'em only as entirely unserviceable to the Publick, was no small Reason made use of to render their Dissolution popular and unpitied. Convents and Monasteries soon came to be look'd upon as a mere Shelter and Sanctuary to lazy Monks and slothful Hermits; their Names were exposed to Infamy and Reproach, and their Lands to Spoil and Confiscation. But notwithstanding *They* were treated as useless to the Church, and burthensome to the State; no need of Reformation Here: *No arm was lifted up against Us*: These Seats of Knowledge, Lovely as they are, Flourished on and Prosper'd; enjoyed their Privileges unenvied, and their Properties unmolested;

tested; and it ought to be remembred to the Honour of *These Societies*, that in the most severe and trying Times they have ever stood Firm to the Cause of God, the Interests of their King, and the Liberties of their Country.

I shall not Leave this Head, without Observing briefly the great Advantages of that Liberal Education, we are Bless'd with; which, notwithstanding the Attempts to lessen it, will always be found a Happy Distinction. It certainly enables Men to pass their Time with greater satisfaction to themselves, and Benefit to the Publick; is an Accomplishment in Persons of the Highest Rank, and sheds a Lustre upon the meanest Birth; it serves to relieve the Mind from the insupportable anxieties of Idleness, and wearisome Inactivity; fills up all the void and leisure Spaces of Life with Improvement and Delight; it opens a readier Way to Favour and Advancement, and should Success be wanting, it will not fail to make Men deserving of it. In short Liberal and Ingenious Studies raise the Soul to the utmost Perfection it is capable of, and give it a Taste of every Thing that is Great, Valuable, and Becoming.

What

What Returns then, what dutious Acknowledgments can be made? what Memorial devised equal to the Names and Merit of Those, who have Imparted to Others the invaluable Privileges of Knowledge and Virtue; of becoming Wiser and Better Men, than they might otherwise have been? How fragrant and refreshing is the Remembrance of Them? It is, as the Son of Sirach says, *like a Composition of Perfumes, sweet as Honey* ^{Ecc. 49.} *in the Mouth, or Musick in a Banquet of Wine.*

But to apply my self now to the Occasion of our Present Meeting.

We are this Day Assembled together Gratefully to Commemorate the Many and Signal Advantages We enjoy, from that Beneficent and Pious Prince our *Royal FOUNDER*; a Prince not less admired for His Holiness and Virtue, than eminent for His Birth and Station; amidst the Pleasures and Revels of a Court Pure and Spotless; in Sufferings and Afflictions patient and resign'd; in Charities Royal, and abundant: He knew no Ambition, but what led to brighter Pursuits, to far more Glorious Rewards, than this World had to offer; and tho' fond and mistaken Man may conceive the lofty Titles of *Godlike* and Im-

mortal due only to Those, who make wanton Havock among their Fellow-Creatures; tho' the Idle Multitude may be amused and struck with Wonder at the Glaring Figures of Ensigns and Trophies; yet in the Sight of Heaven, in the Eye of Superior Beings, did that Meek and Distressed Prince, in the most disconsolate State, under the severest Woe, appear more Bright and Amiable, than the most Aspiring Monarch in the highest Circumstances, in the very extatick Moments of Pomp and Triumph. And We must account it sure as well the Peculiar Felicity, as Glory of this Society, to be Bless'd with *such* a Sovereign for its FOUNDER; Who prefer'd the Honor and Service of his Maker to all the Gay and flattering privileges of a Crown: This is a Circumstance in our Favour too Great and Uncommon to be overlook'd, as it may render us more immediately the Objects of Divine Care; and, if not Faulty to ourselves, may dispose the Almighty to be more Kind and Propitious to Us in the several Pursuits and Endeavours of our Lives: nor need we go back to *past* Annals for Examples of such, who setting out with the Blessings and Advantages of this Place and Education, have afterwards become the Delight and Ornament of their Country; this *present* Age can furnish out the Noblest

Noblest Instances of that kind, when we Behold those Illustrious Persons, once the Glories of this House, now First in Favour with their Prince, and Discharging with Eminent Abilities the Highest and most Important Offices in the State.

Nor was the Bounty of King *HENRY* Limited to this Spot alone; with the same Godly Zeal, and unbounded Openess of Heart did He Erect another Flourishing and Renowned COLLEGE, from whence a beautiful and growing Prospect rises to our Sight: There those Ingenuous Youths, hereafter to be Enrol'd in our Number, are early Warm'd into a Generous Love of Learned Arts; and are taught to grow in Virtue, as they Increase in Knowledge. Happy then is the Situation of those Plants, whose Soil is Excellent and their Water the *Dew of Heaven*.

One might be apt to conclude from the wonderful and extensive Designs of this *Royal and Good Man*, that He had Reigned in the most Serene and Flourishing Periods of Time, amidst the utmost Affluence and Plenty: Yet were His *Days* Evil and full of Sorrow; so grievous, so afflicting, as must have brought Faintness, and Weariness upon any Soul less Heavenly and Heroic, than
His

His own. He stood Firm and Unshaken in all Extremities; His Views, notwithstanding the Discouragements of a Wretched and Disastrous Life, were still Enlarged; and Shortned only by an Untimely End; Untimely for Us, I mean, and our Concerns; in-as-much as He had Greatly intended to raise our Walls in a manner becoming the Majesty of His Character, and in some Measure suitable to *This* Venerable and Stately *Fabrick*. But that Magnificent Undertaking was reserved for the Fame and Splendor of succeeding Times, and adds Now an uncommon Lustre to *THIS* Day's Solemnity; a Day, which brings Transport to our Selves, and shall descend with Honours to Posterity.

Might we suppose that *Blessed Saint* to be a Spectator of this Joyful *Anniversary*, with what Delight and Satisfaction would He behold this *FIRST*, and we trust Fortunate, Attempt of Ours; an Attempt we humbly presume His *Present MAJESTY* will vouchsafe to encourage, as design'd. by a *Royal* Predecessor; a Circumstance singly in it self sufficient to recommend it to so *Gracious* and *Munificent* a Monarch: Whose extraordinary Marks of Favour and Bounty, already bestowed upon this *Seat of Learning*, must
for

for ever be mention'd with all Expressions of Duty and Gratitude. With these comfortable Prefaces may WE not go on, and Promise Ourselves Supplis continually flowing in upon Us; that others will Imitate, where all Admire, so Fair, so Goodly an Example.

You your selves, my Brethren, have been ready with your Tribute, a *Free-Will Offering of a sweet smelling Savour*, by Chearfully and Unanimously setting aside, and parting with so Large a Portion of your Substance; which could ill have been spared upon any Exigence less Needful, upon any Call less Importunate, than our Present Occasion. Nor has, we find, that *other COLLEGE*, which stands related to Us, as Settled and Endowed by the same FOUNDER, been unmindful to shew (as we must thankfully remember) Kind and Ample Testimonies of their Good Will and Forward Zeal in promoting this Affair. Yet, whenever This Structure shall appear in its full Dignity and Proportions, the Chief of our Acknowledgments must, as they are ultimately due, run back to HIM, Who gave Others the happy Opportunity of *Sharing* in so Excellent a Design. And may this Building, the Expectation of Ages, now Rise with Speed and Success, equal

equal to our fairest Hopes; may it continue in Strength and Beauty, *so long as the Sun and Moon endureth*; and may all Those, whose Hearts are Generously inclined to contribute to so Useful and Necessary a Work, meet, as sure they must, with the applause of all Good Men here, and with an *exceeding Great Reward*, which that God, *who is not unrighteous to forget this Labour of Love*, will bestow upon them Hereafter: And Finally let all the People *lift up their Voice with one Accord*, and say, *The Lord prosper You, We wish You good luck in the Name of the Lord. Amen.*



THE STATE OF
KINGS COLLEGE,
IN RELATION TO THE
OLD FABRICK,
TOGETHER WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF
THE FOUNDATION OF A NEW ONE.

THE strait and incommodious Building, in which the Society has hitherto been oblig'd to inhabit, was intended by the Founder, King HENRY VI, for a former Foundation of a Rector and 12 Scholars only.

But He soon quitted that Design for another of a much larger Establishment of a Provost and 70 Fellows and Scholars, which is now subsisting, but confin'd to the few and inconvenient Apartments provided for the smaller Society before-mention'd.

The Royal Founder had enter'd on a Design of erecting a College proportionable to the Number of 70, for whose Maintenance He had made Provision, and had built great Part of the Chapel, which was to form the North side of the Quadrangle: but thro' the Calamities that befell Him

in the latter Part of his Reign, He was not only restrain'd from carrying on the other 3 Sides, but compell'd even to leave the Chapel to be finish'd, as it was, by his Royal Successors of both the Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*.

A Description of such his intended College may be seen at large in *Stow's Annals*, where so much of his Royal Will is recited, as relates to this Affair: and the friendly Annalist concludes his Account with a *HEARTT DESIRE, THAT ALMIGHTY GOD MAY PUT IT INTO THE HEART OF SOME NOBLE PRINCE OF THIS LAND, ONE DAY TO MAKE PERFECT THIS ROYAL WORK SO CHARITABLY BEGUN.*

And many a fair Prospect has there been in different Reigns, of seeing that good Wish take Place, which various Accidents have still prevented, when the Design was just ripe for Execution. But the College has ever had an Eye to it, and in all the Leases of any Parcel of Ground adjoining to their Site, from the time of the Foundation to this Day, have still reserv'd a Power of accommodating themselves, if ever the Building should be carried on.

They are induc'd to take it in hand at this time, by the following Considerations.

1st As

1st. As they are enabled to proceed in it to some Degree, by being possess'd of a considerable Sum of their own, which was appropriated to that Use some Years ago, and is now improv'd to about 4000 Pounds: which Instance of a publick Spirit, besides the Readiness of the respective Members to contribute farther, according to their several Abilities, 'tis hop'd will recommend their Undertaking to such as are generous and well-dispos'd.

2^{dly}. As some very great and eminent Personages, who had their Education in this College, have been pleas'd to give Assurances of being liberal Benefactors: whose noble Example, and powerful Influence gives life to the Design, and may be the probable Occasion of greater Success, than They could otherwise Have expected.

3^{dly}. As the Members of the * *Sister College* * Eton have been hearty Encouragers and liberal Promoters of this Work, both in their corporate and personal Capacities.

Lastly, Experience having shewn that many Benefactions have been lost by the Delay of this Undertaking; whilst such as wish'd and intended well to it, and only waited to see it set on Foot, have from time to time been snatch'd away, and their good Intentions prov'd abortive; it was judg'd.

judg'd advisable to give a fairer Opportunity, to such as may now, or hereafter, have the like favourable Disposition; of lending their Assistance not to an airy Scheme, but to a real Work, actually begun, and prosecuted with Earnestness and Vigour.

Accordingly (the Ground having been first laid out, and the Foundation dug for the West-side of the Square, pursuant to a PLAN design'd by Mr. Gibbs) on the 25th Day of *March* last, being the Anniversary of commemorating the *Founder*, and the *University* being met, as usual, at *Kings College Chappel*; after the Sermon, and an Anthem compos'd on the Occasion; The *Provost*, accompanied by the *Noblemen*, *Heads of Colleges*, *Doctors*, and other *Members* of the *University*, proceeding to the Corner of the Foundation, next the Chapel, where the first Stone was to be laid, bespoke Success to the Undertaking in the Form which follows, with such Actions, at proper Intervals, as the Words themselves express, or are customary in such Kinds of Ceremony.

Quod

Quod cedat in honorem DEI,
 In perenniorem HENRICI nostri Memoriam,
 In Rei Literariæ Incrementum,
 In hujus ACADEMIÆ Decus,
 Et Regni BRITANNICI Splendorem;
 Novi Collegii Fundamenta jacere sic aggredior.
 † Narratiunculam hanc Aeri incisam
 Seræ commendo Posteritati,
 Et hæc substerno Numismata,

Aurea,
 Argentea,
 Ærea.

Faxit DEUS Optimus, Maximus,
 Ut diu intermissum Opus,
 Nunc denuò susceptum,
 Jugiter procedat,
 Et ad felicem perducatur Exitum.
 Utque Vobis omnibus
 Qui favente & benevolo
 Hic adestis Animo,

(Quo Vos omnes, ACADEMICI,
 Quin affecti huc veniatis, nullus dubito)
 Nostris similes exoriantur Patroni,
 Pari Nitore assurgant Mœnia.

† The Inscription referr'd to in the 7th Line, engrav'd on
 a Copper Plate, was thus.

Qui

Qui Antiquitatis olim studiosus,
Dum Rudera perscrutabitur,
Hanc Laminam saxo inclusam sorte eruet,
Siat Hunc Lapidem,
Temporibus HENRICI Sexti
Hujus Collegii Fabricæ destinatum :
Ubi verò primùm Res turbidæ,
Dein mors atrocissima
Optimi illius Principis
Operi inchoato longam iniecissent Moram ;
Exade in adjacenti Areâ,
Per tertium jam fere seculum,
(Si qua Traditioni fides)
Quâ Hiatus Lamellam excipit,
Semi-ferratum jacuisse.

Nunc demùm XXV^o die Martii
Anno salutis humanæ MDCCXXIV
Regni autem excellentissimi Regis
GEORGIÆ X^o.

Novis Auspiciis redintegrato Opere,
Qui in priore structurâ nullum invenerat Situm,
Ab hoc Exordium sumpsisse
Occidentale Magni Atrii Latus.
Quid ipsum Collegium huic Operi contulerit,
Quibus subsidiis adjutum,
Quosve habuerit Fautores,
Tam solennis Commemoratio,
Quam Monumenta Literaria,
Hoc Are perenniora,
Posteris notum facient.